

EDMUND G. BROWN
GOVERNOR

State of California
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO



MAR 22 1960

Dear Friend:

I wish I could send a personal reply to each of your messages about the Caryl Chessman case and the death penalty issue.

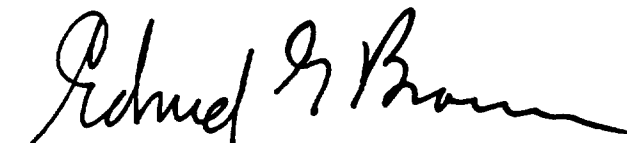
I received tens of thousands of communications on these subjects. I read many of them personally, and the contents of the others were summarized for me by members of my staff.

Most of the messages, whatever position they took, were thoughtful and reasonable, and I appreciated the fact that so many people, not only in California, but in the rest of the nation and the world, took time to let me know their thinking.

I can only tell you that I acted as I did in good faith and in the hope that it was the right thing to do under very complicated and difficult circumstances.

Again, thank you for sending your views.

Sincerely


EDMUND G. BROWN, Governor